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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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SUBJECT	Institutes for Geodesy and Topography	DATE DISTR.	8 November 1953	
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Geografski Institut

1. The Geografski Institut in Sofia, located in a 2-story building on Ruski Boulevard at the corner of 6 September Street, charts military topographic maps on scales of 1:100,000 and 1:25,000 for military schools and makes wall maps for other schools. This organization includes sections for mapping, astronomy and aerial photography and has a printing press. Maps printed after the war have only Bulgarian names and keys to symbols. Entrance to the building, which has an armed military guard, requires a permit from the head of the Institute.
2. The aerial photography department, one of the most important, has the following equipment:
 - a. One stereoscope of Zeiss manufacture which reproduces views with three dimensions (longitude, latitude and sea-level and is used for military topographic maps on a scale of 1:25,000;
 - b. One Vild A-5 machine of Swiss manufacture, imported in 1951, which weighs about one ton and is used for both aerial and ordinary photography;
 - c. One old Vild A-4 machine, which is much smaller than the Vild A-5 and is used for ordinary photographs;
 - d. One multiplex aeropjector of Zeiss manufacture which is used for stereoscopic photographs of a certain area; and
 - e. One set of large SEG-1 photo transformers of Zeiss manufacture.
3. The head of the institute is Colonel Abadzhiev (fnu), about 50 years of age, short, healthy, and the author of a book on military topography. Stefan Trifonov is an accountant at the institute; he is a bachelor about 26 years of age, tall and thin, is a surveyor, and is not a Party member. The staff of the institute consists of enlisted men and career army men. The activity of the institute is growing, and every year new employees are added, consisting mainly of graduates of the

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geodesy department of the Stalin Polytechnic College with a personal recommendation from a professor. Colonel Abadzhiev takes part in the final examinations of the geodesy department.

4. Informant believes the institute will be transferred to Troyan, in the center of Bulgaria.

Geoplan Proekt

5. The Geoplan Proekt is a surveying and topographical organization located at 15 Stambuliyski Street in Sofia. It is controlled by the Supreme Administration for Geodesy and Topography (GUGK; Glavno Upravlenie po Geodezia i Kartografia), which carries out orders received from the Council of Ministers. The GUGK is located at the corner of Klementina, Stalin and Sveta Nedelya Streets. A new building or block of buildings is being built at Boyana, near Sofia, for this organization.
6. Geoplan Proekt, which serves mainly the Ministries of Electrification, Construction, and Agriculture, produces maps for various purposes on scales from 1:1,000 to 1:10,000. Maps of small special areas are made to order for these ministries, sometimes in connection with single building or development projects. Basic data for these maps, obtained from the Geografski Institut, are military maps of 1:25,000, special maps showing trigonometric points, and in some cases aerial photographs of the area to be mapped.
7. Serious difficulties are usually encountered when material is requested from the Geografski Institut. It is almost impossible to get aerial photographs, and when they are obtained, only senior members of the Geoplan Proekt are permitted to handle them. However in some special cases where existing photographs did not show the necessary detail, special aerial photographs were made by the institute at the request of Geoplan Proekt. There are certain areas for which maps are not given to anyone by the institute, not even on a direct request of the GUGK.
8. In 1951 the Ministry of Agriculture prepared development plans for villages near Turgovishte, and maps for this purpose were requested from Geoplan Proekt. In this case the Ministry of Agriculture applied directly to the Geografski Institut for the necessary military maps but was refused. A second request, this time by Geoplan Proekt through the proper GUGK channels, was also turned down with no reason given for the refusal. Informant believes that the Turgovishte area constitutes a restricted area for which no maps are issued except to Army authorities.
9. Geoplan Proekt has a staff of 500 to 600 engineers and technicians. It is controlled by Colonel Abadzhiev, head of the Geografski Institut. Micho Michev is the head of the Geoplan Proekt; he is about 50 years old, tall, thin, a surveyor, and a Communist. Marinov (fnu) is the assistant manager; he is about 40 years old, a surveyor, and a Communist.

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